



**Liberty Township Environmental Commission  
Minutes of Monthly Meeting**

**2021 April 15 (No Quorum)**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. This meeting was advertised on the Township Website Blog as Zoom Only, with login instructions, and on LTEC's Facebook page.

**ROLL:**

Present: Chair Larry Supp, Maureen Bonner, Rich Larsen (LACK OF A QUORUM)  
Absent: Doug Wright

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Bob Ballou of the Mountain Lake Community Association advised that on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> the association is planning to get out their monitoring equipment to do a self check and get out on the lake to do some testing of blue-green algae. They will be coordinating with the DEP to compare meter reading. There was a question on what depth the Dissolved O2 Meter goes, and it's believed to be one meter. There was discussion about purchasing a longer cord, but the cost is likely too high and is estimated to be hundreds of dollars. Larry suggested using their submersibles as an alternative. The association's formal launch will hopefully happen with the next couple of weeks in early May.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Minutes from February 18, 2021 could not be approved due to lack of a quorum on Zoom.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Dan's resignation and approved budget review discussed under new business  
Free Tree Giveaway discussed under old business

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no meeting in March due to lack of attendance.

ANJEC membership dues for 2021 are paid.

Free Tree Seedling Giveaway is scheduled for April 24, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Rich confirmed he will be picking up the trees in Lake Hiawatha on Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. He will keep them at his house until the 24<sup>th</sup>, and will be sure to keep them moistened. LTEC will provide trees, paper bags, and instructions. In addition there will be

a notice provided to everyone explaining that these trees are not deer proof and should be protected from wildlife. The notice will include information about membership. Larry asked that Rich provide the species of the trees ASAP so that he can have a description printed and we can post on the Facebook page. There is a potential for pre-orders if we have the species information early enough. Our tables are to be set-up back by the basketball courts to provide room for the Deputy Clerk (Jenn) who will also be giving out clean-up vouchers to eligible residents. Jeff was advised that cones will be needed to assist with directing traffic. Expected attendees to date are Larry, Rich, Maureen, Marilyn Cruz, and Carrie. Items needed are large folding table(s) and newspaper. It was agreed that everyone would meet at the municipal building at 9:00 a.m. to set-up. Carrie will find out from Diane or Jenn if we can park behind the building to maintain space in the main parking lot. It was decided that two people would remain at the entrance of the parking lot to help direct cars, and two people would manage the distribution of trees. NJ Forestry is requiring names and email addresses of people who take trees. It's agreed that this will likely be difficult to obtain from each person.

Cost for seeds was reimbursed to Larry in the amount \$154.23. A vote was made last year to approve the expenditure up to \$200.

Rich has receipt for straw that he will drop off at the municipal building for reimbursement.

Maureen has receipt and voucher for postage

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

New LTEC Secretary Carrie Gajda is introduced.

Community Day is scheduled for September 25, 2021. LTEC will plan to have a table there. We have 50-60 tote bags as well as some other items already on hand to be given away.

Rich has plans to take temperature measurements. Past data shows that the difference in temperature between different areas of the lake are very small, perhaps only 1 or 2 degrees if at all.

A quick review of the approved budget was done. There is a \$2,500 allocation for "Pequest Clean-up" but Larry was advised this money is not to be touched by the LTEC. Carrie will inquire with Diane and Jenn exactly what this is for and why it's in the EC budget. There is an allocation for "Professional/Outside Agencies", and clarification is needed on who/what gets paid from this category. It is believed that the money pays for chemical treatment of weeds around the lake. Carrie will check with Shannon to find out. There was discussion about purchasing additional sandwich posters/inserts. Rich would like to purchase 10 more at a cost of approximately \$18 each. Rich emailed proposed items with photos. However, Maureen did not receive the photos and therefore could not agree or disagree with the request. Rich will re-send, and in the mean time Maureen suggested that half be purchased now and the other half later in the fall to ensure that we do not run out of allotted money for "Education". Decision could not be voted on due to lack of quorum. Last year there was an issue with year end spending and we went over budget. Larry advised that EC be cautious with spending this year to avoid any

further issues. It was reiterated that reimbursements cannot be made without proper receipt(s) and/or documentation.

Potential Birding Workshop may be able to take place later in the year. Maureen suggested that if we avoid using an outside agencies or guest speakers that budget costs could be kept very low. Bags and books are already available for this kind of event.

LTEC membership is low. With Dan's recent resignation, it is becoming increasingly difficult to do business and vote when a quorum cannot be reached at the meetings. New members are needed. Maureen's neighbor expressed an interest. Carrie will follow-up with Diane and Jenn to find out if there are any applications that have been received. Shannon advised that there is usually a Lake Association officer who will also serve on the LTEC as a liaison between the two. Carrie will inquire with Diane and Jenn if a quorum is a set amount of 4 people or if it's based off of the number of members.

Facebook management was discussed. Carrie inquired with Shannon about what is required in order to manage the LTEC Facebook page. Shannon advised that a personal Facebook account is required, and any existing administrator for the page can invite someone else to also become an administrator. Carrie created a personal account for this purpose, and Shannon sent the invitation to be an administrator. Anyone can post on the page, but the administrator must approve before the post will be seen by the public.

A sympathy card for Doug was agreed upon. Doug advised that he would be unavailable for the meeting due to a family funeral. Larry will get a card and sign from everyone and Carrie will obtain his mailing address from Jenn.

**COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS:** None.

**EXPENDITURES:** None except for LTEC Postcard postage, seed reimbursement, hay reimbursement mentioned above.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting as adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

4/17/21 Footnote: The Dissolved O2 meter has a 50ft. cable, therefore it can be used to get a series of depths.